



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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UNITED STATES POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE

**For further information call:**

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(602) 223-3269

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August 17, 2010

### **Theft of Postal Blue Collection Box**

PHOENIX, Ariz. – The U.S. Postal Inspection Service is offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the theft of a blue collection box stolen late Monday or early Tuesday. The collection box was located near 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and West Melinda Lane, specifically 21600 N 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix.

The Postal Service last collected mail from the box on Monday, Aug. 16, at approximately 3:15 p.m. The collection box was recovered early Tuesday morning near I-17 and Acoma with no mail inside. Customers depositing mail after the last known collection time on Monday should call the Postal Inspection Service at (877) 876-2455, select option 3, and file a mail theft complaint.

The Postal Service is installing a replacement collection box at the location. As a reminder, when depositing outgoing mail in a collection box, customers should always check that day's collection schedule posted on the receptacle and make sure mail is deposited before the last posted collection time.

Mail theft is a violation of the United States Federal Criminal Code, Title 18 USC 1708, and carries a maximum penalty of up to five years in prison. Anyone with information regarding this case should call (877) 876-2455, option 5. For media inquiries, please contact Postal Inspector Patricia Armstrong at (602) 223-3269.

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